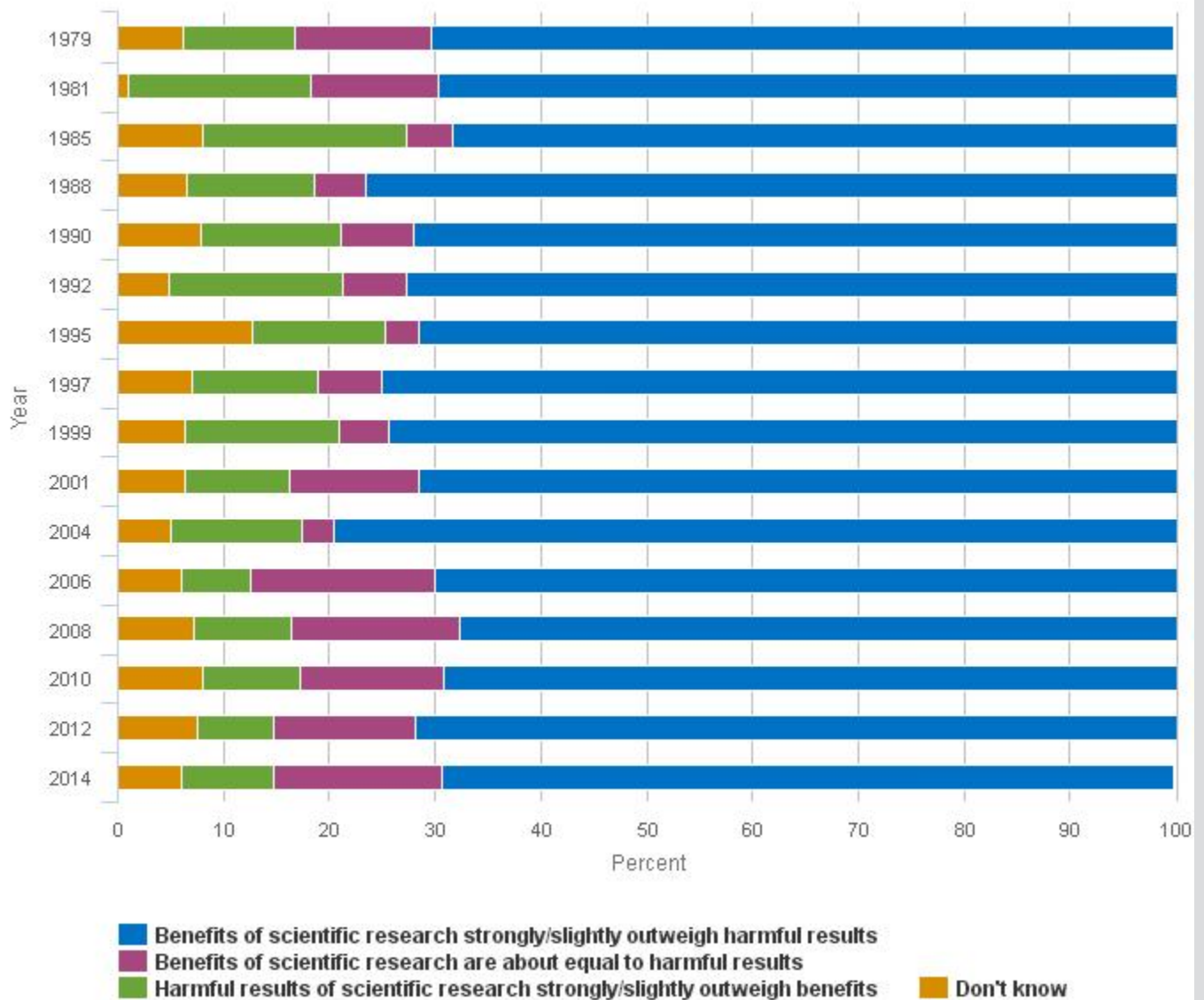


Figure 7-12
Public assessment of scientific research: 1979–2014


NOTES: Responses to *People have frequently noted that scientific research has produced benefits and harmful results. Would you say that, on balance, the benefits of scientific research have outweighed the harmful results, or have the harmful results of scientific research been greater than its benefits?* In this figure, “benefits ... outweigh harmful results” and “harmful results ... outweigh benefits” each combine responses of “strongly outweigh” and “slightly outweigh.” Figure includes all years for which data were collected. Percentages may not add to total because of rounding.

SOURCES: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology (1979–2001); University of Michigan, Survey of Consumer Attitudes (2004); University of Chicago, National Opinion Research Center, General Social Survey (2006–14). See appendix tables 7-12 and 7-13.